

Crystal Lake - The McHenry County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC) presented Congresswoman Melissa Bean its Transportation Champion Award at an awards dinner Thursday evening at the Crystal Lake Holiday Inn.

"The MCEDC was founded on the transportation crisis in Algonquin and transportation has been a key focus of our organization since that time," said MCEDC Chairman Charlie Eldredge. "Congresswoman Bean joined in with enthusiasm and untold effort to help us as soon as (she) took office and saw our needs. ... The struggle to modernize our transportation infrastructure will take many years, but it is a comfort to know that (Congresswoman Bean) will work tirelessly to help us all along the way."

Among the transportation projects that Congresswoman Bean has secured in House legislation for McHenry County are:

- Preconstruction and Construction at Illinois Route 31 from Bull Valley Road to Illinois Route 176: \$1,936,000.
- Miller Road Widening and Improvement in McHenry: \$6,614,000.
- The continuation of US Route 12 from the Wisconsin state line to the intersection of Route 12, Illinois State Route 31, and Tryon Grove Road (Richmond Bypass): \$3,050,000
- Intersection Reconstruction at U.S. Route 12, Illinois Route 31, and Tryon Grove Road: \$720,000.
- Expansion & Upgrades to Metra's UP-NW Line, including extension to Johnsburg: \$7,375,000.

Bean said she'll continue to work with local governments and community partners to help steer federal dollars where they're needed most.

"McHenry County is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation, but our transportation infrastructure has not kept up," Bean said. "I've enjoyed working closely with our area leaders to change that. I'm honored to receive your acknowledgement of my efforts on behalf of our community."

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